

"My Master hath sent me."

MESSIAH'S MISSIONARY

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF



Messiah's • Lutheran • Church

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SOUTH WILLIAMSPORT, PA.

BURLINGAME P.O.

FEBRUARY, 1890.

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Messiah's Missionary.

SERIES III.

SOUTH WILLIAMSPORT, PA., FEB., 1890.

NO. 2.

Which is Better?

Does any one like a drizzling rain
As well as a sunny sky?
Does any one turn to a frowning face
If a pleasanter one is nigh?

—*Golden Days.*

Installation of Rev. Charles T. Steck.

According to appointment it was our pleasure to have a part with the President of Synod in the installation of Rev. Charles T. Steck, as pastor of Trinity Lutheran church, at Shamokin, Pa., Jan. 12th, 1890.

The day was a most pleasant and happy one in every respect; a summer sunshine and atmosphere without contributing inspiration to the interesting devotions. The installation exercises were under the direction of Rev. John Wagner, of Hazelton, who gave a most practical address to the large congregation present. The writer had the pleasure of delivering the address to the pastor; and in obedience to the "powers that be," also preached the evening discourse. The audiences were large notwithstanding many were detained at home because of the "a la grippe" epidemic.

The relation that was consummated by these exercises, is surely a most promising one; and our prayer is that all the promises may be realized by both pastor and people; and as the days and years go by, each become the more strongly and affectionately endeared to the other. We shall ever be glad to hear of the prosperity and progress of Trinity Lutheran and her popular pastor.

Thoroughly Pounded.

Though mention has been made elsewhere of our thorough pounding on New Year's night, perhaps it may be well to make the matter one of permanent record. In some way it seems that we provoked the good people of Messiah's, to make a heroic and united attack upon us, which they did on the evening above mentioned, marching, unbidden, upon the pastors tent and taking complete possession. After recovering breath, and finding that it all happened on purpose, we became composed and spent the balance of the evening most pleasantly. We had no doubt as to the motive of the assembling, when taking a peep into the kitchen department we saw the many and varied tokens of esteem, arranged in baskets, bags, bundles, and other ways "too numerous to mention." Had we remained at all skeptical as to the object of the visit, this was fully removed when a little later Bro. J. M. Steck, in behalf of the congregation, presented a beautiful and most comfortable rocker, with the kind wishes and esteem of the donors. In our usual stammering way we endeavored to assure those present of our appreciation. And now to those who were not present at that time, but who contributed so much toward our Happy New Year night of 1890, we say, THANK YOU.

May the very happy event contribute toward a still more pleasant relation between pastor and people.

The Church.

Absent, who? Why?

Some time ago we submitted in these columns a remedy that came to us on good authority as a sure cure for "Sunday Complaint;" and yet we are now inclined to doubt either its virtue, or its experiment by some of our people. We know that "a la grippe" has been abroad in the land; that many have been absent from church from sickness of various kinds. But how about yourself, dear reader? *Why?* Your absence has been quite noticeable. *Why?* We have not heard of your being sick, so that you were kept from business, or even kept in doors for all this long while.

Let me urge, through this line, upon every one who is negligent in this direction, that you are doing yourself a very great harm. You cannot stay away from the stated means of grace in the public service without robbing your soul of the very resources of spiritual life. It is a very common testimony of those who are *always present* that they do not enjoy as much of the divine life and love as they ought to and would like. How must it be with you if frequently absent? But absence not only brings spiritual dearth to the delinquent; it brings reproach and embarrassment to the congregation. Do you understand that the place made vacant by your absence in the public congregation, Sunday school and prayer meeting, cannot be filled by another? As your place in the home circle cannot be filled by another, so it must remain vacant in church if you are not there. Others will do well if they fill their own place. Yours must therefore remain

empty, if you are not there in person.

Again, your frequent absence, without good excuse, is not only a loss to your own soul, a sin against the divine commandment, but a very great slight to your pastor. He has a right to expect your presence, as much as you have his. He has had you in mind during the week's preparation for the pulpit; and he has come to the public service with something for you; and if you are not there, he is greatly disappointed. Glad as we are to meet you in your home, when it is our privilege to call on you there, it is a still greater pleasure to meet you at the church service. And we are fully assured that we can do you much greater good at the latter place, for there our communion is unknown by any worldly interference.

Had we reached the day of phonographs, and at such prices that all might be supplied, when the public devotions might be gathered up and re-discoursed at home for the benefit of absent members; were it possible to have a chapel on wheels, as a Bishop in Northern Dakota, and move around from house to house, holding services there, we might forbear these lines urging to duty.

But in all sincerity, my dear friends, if you have become negligent and dilatory in this important, self-needed, God-imputed duty, we ask you lay the matter upon your conscience in a prayerful spirit, and answer, not before your pastor, but before God. When sickness or no other preventing circumstance stands in the way, resolve to be with us at every public service. We shall look for you. "Will you be there?"



Pennsylvania College.

This venerable institution is located in the healthful high ground east of the foot hills of the South Mountains, and in the attractive, historic town of Gettysburg. The Lutheran Church of America feeling a need of superior facilities for the higher christian education of her young men, secured a charter for a College in 1832; and in 1834 the first class was graduated. The alumni now number over 800; besides these, more than three thousand have attended the College for short terms.

Of those receiving their education here, a large proportion are now occupying responsible positions, ecclesiastical, political, educational and commercial. The new building, a cut of which we present our readers herewith, was dedicated last year, which greatly improves the facilities of our Gettysburg institution. Dr. H. W. McKnight is the popular and efficient President, and under whose wise management the College is not only holding its old time reputation, but rapidly rising in the scale of prosperity.

There is also a Preparatory De-

partment, located within five minutes walk from the College, where students desiring to prepare for a collegiate course, and those desiring only a high grade course preparatory to teaching and business, may have the very best advantages. This Academy is directly under the control of the College authorities, but has a building of its own, and is under the supervision of its own special Principal.

The location of this institution has excellent railroad advantages, being easily reached from all points of the compass. Several trains a day give it direct communications with Baltimore, Harrisburg and Hagerstown. Another inducement to parents to patronize Gettysburg, is the healthful moral surrounding and cultured society; most essential conditions for the safety and good of those who go away from home for their education.

Gettysburg also has the advantage of famous historical associations, being connected with the supreme battle-field of the great civil war. Every year thousands of visitors come up from every point of the Republic to visit the grounds where the decisive conflict took place, July 1-3 1863.

The Lutheran General Synod has also a Theological Seminary here; and thus our Church has the facilities at Gettysburg for any phase of culture that may be needed by our sons and daughters. And we most heartily commend these institutions to the patronage of our people.

Hymn Books \$1.40 of pastor.

Obituaries.

W. H. MITCHELTREE.

Again our journal bears the sign of mourning. We devoutly hope there may not be continued occasion for this through the year. On Jan. 12th, a large congregation gathered in the church to pay their last tribute to the above named, who for the past two years has held membership in our communion. It was a matter of deep regret to us that an installation service for that Sabbath called us away from home, preventing us from attending the funeral, as we knew the deceased so well; but were very fortunate that the services of Rev. J. M. Steck were available for the occasion. Brother Mitcheltree was a great sufferer for quite a long time, but in loving Christian obedience to the higher Will, he submitted most gracefully, until he heard the call, "come up higher." The family have the hearty sympathy, not only of the church, but the community at large, in their bereavement.

THEODORE R. SMITH.

Again the chapel of the new church was filled to overflowing on January 18th, as the surrounding community gathered in sympathy with the mourning friends to aid in the burial rites of our beloved brother Smith. According to the request of the deceased, Rev. J. M. Steck aided the pastor in the very solemn services at the church, each delivering a short address. Before the procession left for Wildwood, the casket was carried into the home of R. R. Eck, where an invalid sister might have one more opportunity to view the remains of one she loved so

tenderly, and with whom she had sympathized so strongly, even during her own severe suffering. Theodore Robinson Smith, was born March 12th, 1842, died Jan. 16th, 1890, having attained the age of 47 years, 10 months and 4 days. For several years he has been a very great and almost constant sufferer. His disease was of such a complicated order, that while medical skill was taxed to the uttermost in trying to make him comfortable, but very little relief could be given. No suffering mortal ever had better care during a long or short career of sickness, than Mr. S. The devoted wife during these years of affliction, was a constant attendant, doing all that her superior skill and the tenderest affection could suggest. It is worthy of note here, that there are few so large families, where all are so affectionate and tenderly attached to each other, as the many members of this family and relationship. Our sincerest sympathies go out to them all in this deep and sad bereavement.

Donations to "Messiah's Missionary."

W. H. Baysore, Pendleton, N. Y.,	..	50
Mrs. H. W. Kriner, Pottsville, Pa.,	...	50
James K. Bosk, Hughesville, Pa.,	1 00
Mrs. C. W. Gabriel, Burlingame, Pa.,	..	50
J. H. Miller,	"	25
A. Lehman,	"	50
Miss Catharine Wise,	"	50
Mrs. R. R. Eck,	"	25
Willard Wise,	"	50
E. C. Boone,	"	1.00
Mrs. Norman Shauler,	"	35

Rev. H. H. Weber, the General Secretary of the Church Extension Board, York, Pa., expects to spend Sunday evening with us. In the morning of that day he will address the people of St. Paul's.



Trinity Lutheran, Hazelton, Pa.

This congregation was organized by its present popular pastor, Rev. J. Wagner, while yet a student at Gettysburg, Oct. 4th, 1873. We regret the want of space for a fuller sketch of this flourishing congregation.

Lutheran operations began at this point under most discouraging circumstances. Up to July, 1880, this congregation was connected with two country churches; now it was dissolved, but remained a mission three years longer. During the nine years of its missionhood it received from the Board \$1,600; paid back, meantime, \$916.79 for Benevolence. June 3rd, 1888, their present sub-

stantial new edifice was dedicated, costing \$20,000. Indebtedness all provided for. The congregation has already paid back to the several Boards a thousand dollars more in benevolence than it received. Present membership, 300. Sunday School, 400. Two young men from this congregation prepared for the ministry, and are now engaged in mission work.

In view of these facts, my dear friends and members of Messiah's, have we not much to inspire us in working out and up our *mission*? The one object of these sketches is that we may become better acquainted with our neighbors of the Susquehanna Synod. As we learn of their good works, may we thereby become provoked to still greater zeal.

Through this column of MESSIAH'S MISSIONARY we extend the wish that the pastor and pastorate of Trinity Lutheran may go on blessing and being blessed.

Tuesday Evening Prayer Meeting Topics.

Feb. 4. Leader, N. M. Achenbach; subject, "Not Living to Ourselves."—2 Cor. v: 11-21.

Feb. 11. Leader, Clara Wolf; subject, "Those whom God approves"—2 Cor. x: 1-18.

Feb. 18. Leader, George Rickart; subject, "Prove Yourselves."—2 Cor. xiii: 1-14.

Feb. 25. Leader, W. G. Thrall; subject, "Helpers, not Hinderers."—Rom. xv: 1-13.

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 at 3 o'clock.

Prayer Meetings.

Young People's Alliance, Tuesday 7:45 p. m.
 Congregational, Wednesday 7:45 p. m.

OFFICERS.

Church Council.

W. D. Crooks, W. L. Ellinger, A. Lehman Trustees.
 J. C. Hall, J. S. Crammer Elders.
 Oscar Achenbach, G. B. Rickart, J. H. Miller, Thomas Miller Deacons.
 The Pastor Ex-Officio President.
 J. S. Crammer Secretary.
 J. C. Hall Treasurer.

Ushers.

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Sunday School.

J. C. Hall Superintendent.
 W. D. Crooks Assistant Superintendent.
 Misses Lulu Hall, Emma Houser, Organists.
 W. H. Rickart, N. M. Achenbach Secretaries.
 Thomas Miller, J. H. Miller Librarians.
 Miss Clara M. Wolf Treasurer.

Sewing Society.

Mrs. Rosanna Wise President.
 Mrs. John Jarrett Vice President.
 Mrs. W. G. Thrall Secretary.
 Mrs. Susan Rickart Treasurer.
 Regular meetings, Thursday afternoons.

Young People's Alliance.

Miss Minnie Gilmore President.
 Miss Ida Lavo Vice President.
 Miss Clara M. Wolf Secretary.
 Miss Annie Rickart Treasurer.

Committees.

Mrs. John Jarrett, Miss Sarah J. Weigel, Miss Catharine Wise, Mrs. W. L. Ellinger, Mrs. J. C. Hall, Mrs. Susan Rickart Calling.
 Lizzie McIntosh, Mary A. Murray, Louisa Schluter Distributing.
 George Rickart, Clara M. Wolf, Annie Crooks, Willie Hawkins Prayer Meeting.
 Laura Hill, Annie Rickart, N. M. Achenbach, Ida Lavo, Lulu Hall Social.
 Jessie Robinson, Maggie Lavo, Maggie Gilmore Look-Out.
 Annie Rickart, Laura Hill, Clara M. Wolf Music.
 Lizzie Lavo, Berlie Crisman, Harry Flick, Horace Shale, Sylvester Brooks Flower.
 Jessie Robinson, Annie Crooks, Charlie McIntosh, Horace Shale Sunday School.

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Messiah's Missionary

IS PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY

REV. W. G. THRALL,

Pastor of Messiah's Lutheran Church, South Williamsport, Pa., in the interest of South Side Lutheranism.

Entered at the Post Office at Harrisburg, Pa., as second class matter.

The purpose of this Monthly Journal is to give the members and friends of Messiah's Lutheran Church such information concerning the program and needs of our work as may inspire to present duty and interest in the future needs of the congregation.

A voluntary "Offering," from the reader of this issue toward the printing expense of the *Missionary*, is received by the publisher as a token of appreciation, and a request that its efforts may continue regularly.

At Home.

—Those not attending Sunday school, whether married or not, are most cordially invited to the pastor's bible class.

—Rev. A. W. Hontz, of Dickinson Seminary, on Jan. 12th, in our absence, preached an acceptable sermon to our people.

—With no little regret our extra meetings have been deferred until some point in the future, near Easter perhaps.—La Grippe.

—We observe the "Day of Prayer for College," with discourse, prayer and contribution. Trust our effort may be helpful toward the desired end.

—As the Young People's Alliance have decided to work for a new bell, it is to be hoped that all will give them substantial encouragement in their worthy undertaking.

—We have not heard from many of our young people yet who are canvassing with the cards for "Church Furnishing." Soon as

your cards are full we shall be glad to furnish you with others.

—We have no hesitancy in heartily recommending the office where the *MISSIONARY* is printed to any of our people desiring neat printing. You will find the Scholl Bros. very obliging, pleasant gentlemen, too.

—As the pastor has two large unabridged dictionaries on hand, and has scarcely the time to study one, he offers the other at less than one-third its original cost, to any one needing such a help. A Worcester's unabridged, best leather binding and in excellent condition, for the small sum of \$3.

—In this number of the *MISSIONARY* we give a portrait of the new Lutheran church recently built at Hazelton, also a brief historical sketch of the excellent work done by that congregation in the few years of its history. We expect to continue these from month to month. Let us become acquainted with our neighbors. It is our hope that such acquaintance may inspire us the more in our own sphere.

—Feeling the need, as we recently did on those funeral occasions, for larger church accommodations, we urge every one to contribute his personal item of influence, money and work, that in the spring we may be able to furnish the auditorium and dedicate the new building. There is no one but who can do at least a little, and each one doing his and her best, with what our friends are doing outside, we are justified in looking for success in our work. That recent check for \$444.65 from the Church Extension Board, a contribution from the church at large, should encourage us all to put forth our BEST efforts.

--Catechetical class every Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock.

--Again we would urge, not only the members of the Calling Committee, but any other members of the church who can do so, to call on the newer citizens of town, making them to feel at home; also giving them a hearty welcome to our church services. And make as many more calls as you can. Let us show ourselves friendly to all.

--We are frequently asked, "what is the price of the Missionary?" Again we say, there is no subscription price; but the opportunity is given all to pay for it just as they appreciate its visits and are able to contribute. The printing expense is nearly \$200 per year; and so it will be readily seen that every contribution, large or small is *very* acceptable. One need only note the credits of donations to the Missionary to be reminded there are many outside of the community who appreciate our journal. But to those, if any there be, who would like it regularly, and who are unable to pay anything, it will be furnished gratuitously.

--It is greatly to be regretted that all of our people were not present on a recent Sunday evening when our Treasurer of the Council made his report before the congregation. Those who were not there, or many of them, perhaps needed to hear it most. Dear brethren, if we are to prosper, individually, spiritually and as a church, we dare not neglect any of the duties of our stewardship. An obligation taken with the church carries with it the same degree of responsibility as if taken with the First National Bank. From the Treasurer's report it would seem there are some who do not thus look

at the matter, as the books show abundant subscription to meet every need of the church. Remember that the amount of salary to be raised, is pledged not only to the pastor, but to the Home Mission Board. Now if each and every one will adopt the Monthly System, and do the best they can, there will be no complaint or occasion for complaint. To all the occasion is given, at both morning and evening service, to contribute toward the expense of the church as the collection is taken. The report above mentioned also shows that these contributions are not what they should be, or there would not be the deficiency of funds as reported. How unfortunate (to the individuals) that so many should attend church services without contributing even a penny. But let us not call that important part of our service, which is also to be to us a means of grace, "The Penny Collection." When there is one at least, and as poor as any, who does not give less than six cents at every service, and no less than \$1.50 at every communion offering, the rest of us should do no worse. Instead of seeing how *little* we can give, let us just try and see how much we can *pay*. Remember the *liberal* church is the *prosperous* church, the *influential* church, and the Christ-like church.

Topics for Wednesday Evening Prayer Meetings.

Feb. 5th, "The Growing Christian." 2 Peter i: 1-15.

Feb. 12th, "Christian Liberty." 2 Cor. iii: 17.

Feb. 19th, "Trusting and Working." Psalms xxxvii: 1-15.

Feb. 26th, "Bread for the Multitude." Matt. xv: 30-39.

Temperance.

Among the 80,000 Swedes in the city of New York, not one of them it is said, is a saloon keeper.

WHY DO THEY DO IT?

To the Voice.—Did you ever hear of a man desiring to locate in a town or county because there was much intoxicating liquor sold and drank there?

Did you ever hear of a man desiring or asking for a saloon to be established near his dwelling?

Did you hear of a school, high or low, prospering because there was much liquor drank and sold at or near the place of its location?

Did you ever hear of a man who expressed a wish that his sons might become drunkards, or that his daughters should become the wives of drunken husbands?

Can you or anyone tell me why such a large majority of the people vote to bring about and to perpetuate and effect the very things that they apparently do not desire?

B. L. D. GUPPY.

MORGANTOWN, KY., July 24.

TAKE A SHEEP.

There is a pertinent temperance lesson in the following anecdote. A farmer once employed a young man to labor upon his farm without knowing anything of his habits. But soon the farmer found that his new hand was addicted to drinking, and this habit interfered with his usefulness.

"John," said the farmer to the man, "I'll give ye one o' my best sheep if ye'll give up driakin' while ye work for me."

"It's a bargain," declared the man.

A grown son of the farmer, overhearing this agreement, looked up and asked: "Pa, will you give me a sheep, too, if I will not drink this season?"

"Yes," replied the father, "you may have a sheep."

Then the little boy spoke up and said: "Pa, will you give me a sheep, too, if I'll not drink?"

"Yes, son, you shall have a sheep also."

After a moment's pause, the little fellow turned to his father and said: "Pa, hadn't you better take a sheep too?"

"I dunno, I dunno," the farmer replied doubtfully, and then suddenly concluded, "I declar' I'll try it and see!"

The old gentleman was heard afterward to declare that he made the best investment of sheep that season, he ever made in his life.

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Funny Facts.

Angry subscriber (to editor)—I am mad all the way through, an' I wan't my paper stopped!

Editor—Yes, sir; do you want your bill made out?

Angry subscriber—No; I ain't mad enough for that.—*New York Sun.*

Applicant—"Can't yer help an old soldier, mum?"

Benevolent lady—"Poor fellow, here's a dollar for you. Were you wounded?"

(Pocketing the bill)—"No, mum; but I wuz 'mong th' missin' twice."

"How terrible! When was it?"

"Jest afore th' battles of Antietam an' th' Wilderness, mum."—*judge.*

Another clergyman, pleading earnestly with his parishioners for the construction of a cemetery for their parish, asked them to consider the "deplorable condition of thirty thousand Christian Englishmen living without Christian burial."

A little girl has an uncle who had taught her to open and shut his crush hat. The other evening, however, he appeared with an ordinary silk one. "Oh, uncle," she said, "this one is very hard, I've had to sit on it, but I can't get it more than half shut."

The Juvenile Philosopher.—Rev. Doxology (to Brother Bangs and his family)—"I am annoyed every Sabbath by Brother Moneyfist. The old man persists in going to sleep with his mouth open. I wonder what he does that for?" Bobby—"I guess he wants somebody to chuck a nickel into the slot."

THE PRINTER'S TOWEL.

Burdette drops into prose-verse, or verse-prose, and here is the result:

"When I think of the towel, the old-fashioned towel, that used to hang up by the printing house floor, I think that nobody in these days of shoddy can hammer out iron to wear as it wore. The tramp who abused it, the devil who used it, the comp who got at it when these two were gone, the make-up and foreman, the editor, poor man, each rubbed some grime off while they put a heap on. In, over and under, 'twas blacker than thunder, 'twas harder than poverty, rougher than sin; from the roller suspended, it never was bended, and it flapped on the wall like a banner of tin. It grew thicker and rougher, and harder and tougher, and daily put on a more inkier hue, until one windy morning, without any warning, it fell to the floor and was broken in two."

There was an old preacher once who told some boys of the Bible lesson he was to read in the morning. The boys, finding the place, glued together the connecting pages. The next morning he read on the bottom of the page: "When Noah was one hundred and forty, he took unto himself a wife, who was (turning the leaf) one hundred and forty cubits long, forty cubits wide, built of gopher wood, covered with pitch inside and out." He was naturally puzzled at this. He read again, verified it, and then said: "My friends, this is the first time I ever met this in the Bible, but I accept it as an evidence of the assertion that we are fearfully and wonderfully made."

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